

## DLC Open Forum – Chat log

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: Shoutout to FDLP staff again. Y'all do such a great job with these conferences. You make it look effortless and I'm sure it's far from that!

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: And presenters and DLC. I lumped. \*GPO Staff. Clearly I'm not caffinated enough. Since like 2020.

Kelly Seifert -> All Participants: Thanks so much, Charlie!

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: Only allows one click.

Mary A. Ries -> All Participants: Thru Blogs and staff intranet postings

Aimee Quinn -> All Participants: I use all

Scott Briggs -> All Participants: Mostly signage. But there are a few sessions that professors bring to learn about resources that deal with Govt Info.

Andrea Craley -> All Participants: A little bit of all

Aimee Quinn -> All Participants: You know I am always going to talk about govinfo as often as I can even over dinner which drives my family nuts!

Ronnie Joiner -> All Participants: Mostly signage, but I also create digital guides.

Rick Mikulski -> All Participants: Now that federal material is overwhelming digital, patrons can no longer thumb through print indexes, nor walk through the stacks and SEE how gov info is structured. More than ever, patrons need govinfo professionals to help point them in the correct direction, and to inform them of the types of material that exists. Libguides, how-to guides, and of course reference support is extremely important.

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: I'm with @Aimee on chatting family and friends about govinfo

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: Knowledge of resources. I try to emulate a sponge.

JoAnna McCulley -> All Participants: Libguides are really helpful to compile information about topics/subjects.

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: Knowing agency structure can really help with directing people.

Kelly Smith -> All Participants: I rely heavily on LibGuides.

Kris Abery -> All Participants: Libguides are helpful

Mark Hamilton -> All Participants: highlighting resources to share with library colleagues

Andrea Craley -> All Participants: LibGuides - promote these in the online courses that I am as an embedded librarian

Mark Hamilton -> All Participants: more topical libguides

Becki White -> All Participants: For libraries that cannot afford LibGuides, what is the best (free) alternative?

Emily Rogers -> All Participants: I try to remind reference colleagues of the many opportunities there are to consult government info resources to answer questions

Kris Abery -> All Participants: Good question Becki

Brian Garrison -> All Participants: Teaching incoming students how to use modern search engines to search for government information using structured searches.

Sarah Dobransky -> All Participants: In the public library, I encourage my staff and other librarians to use the "site:gov" trick in Google.

Aimee Quinn -> All Participants: +1, Daniel, knowing agency structure and interaction between the branches and how offices work is crucial.

Marie Concannon -> All Participants: People seem to greatly appreciate help with Census data -- the census.gov website has a steep learning curve

Lisa Hartman -> All Participants: +1 Sarah

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: Speaking of agencies - shoutout to GPO for their prototype guides on Interior and Treasury

Kaitlyn Moody -> All Participants: Facilitate pathfinding tools that better compile resources for specific subjects, then using tools like QR codes to better point patrons towards those materials

Mark Hamilton -> All Participants: +1 Marie

Andrea Craley -> All Participants: I ask for more Social media posts (I don't have admin ability, have to send my requests to the librarian that does)

Sarah Dobransky -> All Participants: @Marie - data.census.gov is a pain!

Rhonda Murphy -> All Participants: Creation of libguides, research guides, webguides available on the public computers with links to often requested sites.

Barbara Levergood -> All Participants: I like to challenge users to think about the role the federal government might have played in their research topic and then point out possible agencies and publications to look at.

Rick Mikulski -> All Participants: It must be extremely difficult to become a govdocs librarian now -- early career I would just browse the physical FDLP collection to see how it all fits together, and to see the types of material each agency produces; as a digital/abstract collection, it must be frustratingly confusing and difficult to get a good handle on what materials exist

Trillian Hosticka -> All Participants: +1 Marie. Thank goodness for our data librarian lending a hand

Kris Abery -> All Participants: As more info. goes digital its going to be hard for smaller institutions & public libraries to keep up

Tekla Slider -> All Participants: +1 Daniel and Aimee- sharing interesting questions that I receive related to gov docs with friends and family

Rick Mikulski -> All Participants: @ Becki White, you might look at <https://www.subjectsplus.com/>

Becki White -> All Participants: Is it appropriate for a small library to spend the time to create their own LibGuide equivalent?

Andrea Craley -> All Participants: +1 Sarah - I will show that to librarians and students too!

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: I make heavy use of our state library association and school librarians list. I forward webinar notices and "daily life" type resources with them.

Lori Thornton -> All Participants: (this is Susanne Caro- not Lori) It depends on the user, the question, and the situation. Sometimes I will teach them where to find what they need other time I provide links/scans with an explanation of what is available, what is not available and where there could be more information. Sometimes it is more of a collaboration.

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: Hire more neurodiverse librarians! We make great govinfo librarians. We love the chaotic order.

Scott Briggs -> All Participants: +1 Kris, and with dwindling staffing to handle the work with Govt info, it is hard to keep up and make sure resources get found and patrons can find the info they need.

Ronnie Joiner -> All Participants: I use Niche Academy, but I don't know what the cost is for that because it is provided by the Commission for Libraries.

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: <https://libguides.fdlp.gov/>

Sarah Dobransky -> All Participants: @Andrea - I tell my students to search "pizza" and then "pizze site:gov" in Google to see the difference. It's a great exercise!

Jen` Kirk -> All Participants: Existing guides; <https://libguides.fdlp.gov/>

Tekla Slider -> All Participants: @ Becky- I write short articles for our blog and newsletter about timely topics with links to digital documents

Kris Abery -> All Participants: Some smaller public libraries don't have the ability to add/change their website. Its controlled by the town

karina ricker -> All Participants: sometimes it feel like overkill. discovery through the catalog, highlighting resources in a research guide, then highlighting in a FAQ. informing staff via email. twitter.

Ronnie Joiner -> All Participants: FDLP will also create LibGuides on your behalf.

Rob Mead -> All Participants: We're using our library blog (medium) to do LibGuide like blog posts on the cheap

Aimee Quinn -> All Participants: @Sarah D. that is a wonderful idea! I love it.

Kaitlyn Moody -> All Participants: We've created "print previews" of materials before. Print the title page/contents and then provide a QR code for the full document

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: And LibGuides keeps a public directory - <https://community.libguides.com/>

Jennifer Morgan -> All Participants: +1 Emily There are a lot of good gov info resources that can be recommended to reference colleagues (as well as to students or faculty). I like to point to CRS reports (<https://crsreports.congress.gov/>), which provide good summaries of laws or topics with plenty of footnotes and citations to primary sources.

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: +1 Jennifer, and UNT's excellent historic CRS collection.

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: Also check out other depositories in your state. Some of them will use LibGuides, blogs, etc.

Tien Triggs -> All Participants: At every opportunity, I share info about the FDLP and gov docs with my MLIS cohort. (In fact, I'm writing the state and federal portions of our academic law library collection policy for my Collection Management class!) The hope is that my fellow future librarians will start their careers already knowing more about the FDLP and its resources than perhaps the average newcomer to the profession. :) Does being an intermediary for fellow librarians count?

Elisabeth Garner -> All Participants: Our Data Services librarian has been really helpful, sharing government resources from the Census in workshops that she's lead.

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: @Tien - Very much so. Thanks for being a guide!

Andrea Craley -> All Participants: @Sarah D - that's awesome! Just today while I was on the Reference Desk, I showed a student that Google trick and found her all kinds of government information stats she wanted to find in relation to her topic :)

Mary Bangert -> All Participants: What was that site you like to show patrons to explore?

Dominique Hallett -> All Participants: I teach a lib sci course about gov docs, and my students are amazed at what is out there. This course has disappeared from many library schools unfortunately

Christopher Brown -> All Participants: With 100% of our tangible docs offsite, I sometimes point students (and librarians) to the Browse the Documents Stack guide:  
<https://libguides.du.edu/c.php?g=90503>

Elizabeth Williams -> All Participants: Not at an academic library

Aimee Quinn -> All Participants: I am a mentor to librarians and new policy faculty.

Jennifer Morgan -> All Participants: Re: understanding US Government structure, this page at [usgovernmentmanual.gov](https://usgovernmentmanual.gov) is helpful: <https://usgovernmentmanual.gov/GMEntireStructure>

Lori Thornton -> All Participants: Dominique- thank you for teaching gov info!

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: And Census has an outstanding training resource! -  
<https://www.census.gov/data/academy.html>

Jen` Kirk -> All Participants: State Data Center Program for Census trainings/presentations/reference help: <https://www.census.gov/about/partners/sdc.html>

Elisabeth Garner -> All Participants: Our Associate Director for our overall department, (including Gov Docs), shares [govinfo.gov](http://govinfo.gov) and [congress.gov](http://congress.gov) when he's teaching his History 290 class (Historical Research methods)

Sarah Dobransky -> All Participants: The Law Library of Congress has some great webinars that I have my own staff watch: <https://www.loc.gov/research-centers/law-library-of-congress/researcher-resources/legal-research-institute/united-states-law-webinars/>

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: Wait, where can I see these!?

Andrea Craley -> All Participants: The librarians here created "Cover Classes" - to teach a class on a topic related to the course to "cover" for the faculty member. I created a Gov Docs Cover Class for a BA101 class where I focused on government agency links relevant to business primary and secondary documents, business plans, market and annual reports, and all kinds of business related government resources

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: Boooooo

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: I eagerly anticipate!

Tekla Slider -> All Participants: +1 Sarah

Allen Moye -> All Participants: Great resources- Thanks for sharing!

Vicki Tate -> All Participants: We no longer provide one-on-one onsite Reference services, but rely on chat reference. But I do get referrals from the primary person doing chats since he knows I am usually in the library and can help with onsite requests, especially for gov info

Jen` Kirk -> All Participants: Sorry, Charlie!

karina ricker -> All Participants: we have bookmarks for the google search:  
<https://libguides.library.albany.edu/c.php?g=938728 & p=6785853>

Andrea Craley -> All Participants: +1Karina - very cool :)

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: @Karina - ooh- super cool!

Rick Mikulski -> All Participants: The digitization of govinfo, both current and historic, makes known item searching wonderfully easy -- the hardest part of our job is getting people to Think to even look for govdocs they don't know what exists. Census is a great example: how many users realize that Social Explorer only covers a fraction of historic data in census studies? If they don't know the topical reports exists, they won't know to even look for them.

Jennifer Morgan -> All Participants: +1 Sarah, Library of Congress webinars are good. I share these and FDLP Academy webinars with my colleagues and students.

Jen` Kirk -> All Participants: +1 Rick

Sarah Dobransky -> All Participants: Yes Lisa! I send the more general FDLP webinars to our branch managers, like the upcoming Medicare webinar. We have a lot of public patrons who need access to state/federal benefits.

Jen` Kirk -> All Participants: Sarah, that's great. FDLP webinars are so useful for sharing with colleagues- especially the fact that they are free and recorded!

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: +1 Sarah

Sarah Dobransky -> All Participants: @Jen - the magic word FREE

Jen` Kirk -> All Participants: @Sarah - 100%

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: +1 Rick

Lori Thornton -> All Participants: +1 Sarah

Lori Thornton -> All Participants: +1 Rick

Andrea Craley -> All Participants: Sharing of free webinars with library staff is valuable :)

Jennifer Morgan -> All Participants: <https://www.loc.gov/subscribe/>

Elisabeth Garner -> All Participants: I send a "Gov Doc Tuesday" each week to my colleagues, highlighting strange, funny, odd, etc. Gov Docs

Aimee Quinn -> All Participants: +1 Jennifer

Jen` Kirk -> All Participants: Amazing, Elisabeth!

Andrea Craley -> All Participants: +1 Elisabeth - that's great!

Dominique Hallett -> All Participants: I want to put in a plug for Kelly's weekly roundup  
<https://ucsd.libguides.com/usgov/roundup?fbclid=IwAR1Yp8HZB6Bhy4498ZrAbeAIlOnxl-TmX2Xj1ITfjzLygCA19wdOjWh11EI>

Rob Mead -> All Participants: ++1 Elisabeth

John Olson -> All Participants: When teaching a class where students need to find the first place to find a solid source of information I send them to CRS reports.

Kelly Smith -> All Participants: Thanks! :)

Andrea Craley -> All Participants: The librarians at our community college are assigned to divisions as librarian liaisons. I'm assigned to the Behavior & Social Science division, and I'll share promotion of resources to the Dean to share with his faculty whenever I can :)

Rick Mikulski -> All Participants: I think librarians can also better promote docs to colleague librarians by toning back the self deprecating humor surrounding docs. It's easy and fun to play up the arcane aspects of our field for comedic effect, but I also worry it makes other librarians less interested in our field, and they in turn are less likely to promote docs to users.

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: I used some older CRS Reports to begin compiling a legislative history last week, loved it.

Sheila Dorsey -> All Participants: Like Elisabeth, I use Twitter. I send at least one @FedDocFriday tweet each week on our agency site to promote historical and current fed docs

Jennifer Morgan -> All Participants: +1 Rick

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: And let's give a moment to thank for so many people who struggled so long to get CRS reports in the FDLP. It was a years (decades?) advocacy effort.

Elisabeth Garner -> All Participants: That's great, Sheila!

Brent Abercrombie -> All Participants: We do something similar at the Indiana State Library - a section of our library's newsletter contains a gov info section called Gov Info Minute that highlights gov info on all levels, topic content, upcoming webinars, etc.

Lori Thornton -> All Participants: +1 Daniel

Sarah Dobransky -> All Participants: +1 Daniel

Kelly Smith -> All Participants: In addition to teaching the site.gov trick, I teach students/faculty how to use other advanced Google operators to find materials of interest. I'm never going to be able to address every possible topic, so I think it's generally better for me to teach them how to search more effectively.

Elisabeth Garner -> All Participants: I love CRS reports! :)

Andrea Craley -> All Participants: Biggest day of promotion here - we tie Constitution Day to National Voter Registration Day as well, and actively collaborate with the Paralegal department and Student Life. Every 5 years, we tie our FDLP anniversary to all that as well.

Rick Mikulski -> All Participants: +1 CRS reports!

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: @Daniel Decades. Wrote the paper on it!  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/0270319X.2018.1552054>

Sheila Dorsey -> All Participants: #FedDocFriday

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: Thanks Charlie!

Andrea Craley -> All Participants: Students love food! :)

Brent Abercrombie -> All Participants: Indiana's biggest promotion of gov info is our full day Government Information Day conference. It helps Indiana public librarians need continuing education and our conference sessions offer them.

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: NObody give T & F money. If you need a copy, just ask me!

Elisabeth Garner -> All Participants: @ Brent, that's a cool idea....

Brent Abercrombie -> All Participants: Also host webinars as well for continuing education

Mary A. Ries -> All Participants: Need to determine how the students, etc. are interacting and link into this network

Jennifer Morgan -> All Participants: Info on Indiana's Government Information Day,  
<https://indianagovinfo.org/government-information-day/>

Brent Abercrombie -> All Participants: That's correct. The gov info community attends, but the conference is geared towards the public librarians.

Brent Abercrombie -> All Participants: Or non depository librarians

Kristine Stilwell -> All Participants: When doing a f-2-f promotion, consider showing the clip from the "West Wing" The Stackhouse filibuster episode where Sam tries to eliminate various costly government documents, for which he's taken to task by a very young intern. The intern's love of government information is really quite moving.

Lori Thornton -> All Participants: I've had the opportunity to offer a session at a teachers continuing education day.

Elisabeth Garner -> All Participants: @Lori, we've done that at UNC-Wilmington too! We called it "Day with Docs" when it first started, for area K-12 teachers

Brent Abercrombie -> All Participants: I'd love to find ways to promote gov info resources to teachers in my state. There's so much great content available for free.

Suzanne Reinman -> All Participants: Government Information Online at Oklahoma State University highlights government information in the news, online resources, etc.  
<https://okstategovdocs.blogspot.com/>

Elizabeth Fox -> All Participants: I try to do a presentation at the state library conference focusing on online documents useful for school and public librarians.

Jennifer Morgan -> All Participants: In Indiana, we (INDIGO) also sponsor webinars on gov info topics for librarians around the state. <https://indianagovinfo.org/webinars/>

Elisabeth Garner -> All Participants: @ Brent, we made 4 modules on Fed Docs, and 4 modules on NC State docs for teachers...

Jen` Kirk -> All Participants: <https://libguides.usu.edu/bridgingthegap>

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: For school outreach, consider seeing if you have a state chapter of the American Association of School Libraries - <https://www.ala.org/aas/>

Brent Abercrombie -> All Participants: Thanks Jennifer for sharing the link! Great idea Elisabeth!

Elisabeth Garner -> All Participants: @Elizabeth, that's another great idea, to present at a library conference in your state on online docs

Lori Thornton -> All Participants: State library presentations in the form of a trivia contest. It is different enough to get peoples attention and they learn about a range of resources.

Sarah Dobransky -> All Participants: I'm getting ready for next year's eclipse with NASA resources and anything else I can find. I'm putting together some coloring pages, suggested crafts for our branch staff, and how to make pin-hole viewers.

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: Also, your state department of Education may have a school/district directory. For example, Alaska's is at [https://education.alaska.gov/doe\\_rolodex/schoolcalendar](https://education.alaska.gov/doe_rolodex/schoolcalendar)

Rob Mead -> All Participants: Eclipse party!

Rick Mikulski -> All Participants: as a refer librarian: only patron scarier than a genealogy patron is a genealogy patron who asks for you by name

Jen` Kirk -> All Participants: NASA coloring pages: <https://spaceplace.nasa.gov/coloring-pages/en/>

Carolyn Ottoson -> All Participants: Did a tour of entire library for local genealogy society. One page for gov docs <https://infoguides.wtamu.edu/genealogytour/govdoc>

Sarah Dobransky -> All Participants: Cleveland is going to be very busy, but you're more than welcome to come party with us!

Jennifer Morgan -> All Participants: Speaking of genealogy, there was an FDLP news alert about the 2023 National Archives Genealogy Series, <https://www.archives.gov/calendar/genealogy-series/2023>

Brent Abercrombie -> All Participants: lol Rick

Kelly Smith -> All Participants: lol +1 Rick

Jennifer Morgan -> All Participants: ROFL Rick

Daniel Cornwall -> All Participants: @Rick - LOL

Sarah Dobransky -> All Participants: +1 Rick lol

Aimee Quinn -> All Participants: +1 Jennifer

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: I still have my same concerns over technology: providing access, network security, etc.

Allen Moye -> All Participants: For genealogists

Allen Moye -> All Participants: <https://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy>

Rick Mikulski -> All Participants: Visitors to Colonial Williamsburg will stop at W & M on rainy days to see if we have info on their ancestors. Worst of all, we often \*do\* if the family is originally from Virginia

Lori Thornton -> All Participants: @Rick, I hope you have a donation jar

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: If that was mine: Please explain the relationship between the Depository Library Council (DLC) and the Government Publishing Office (GPO).

Jen` Kirk -> All Participants: The Depository Library Council (DLC) and the Government Publishing Office (GPO) are two entities that work together to facilitate the dissemination and accessibility of U.S. government information to the public. Here's a brief explanation of their relationship: The Government Publishing Office (GPO): The GPO is an agency of the federal government, responsible for producing and distributing information products and services for all three branches of the government. It manages the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP), which ensures that government publications are available to the public through a network of participating libraries known as depository libraries. GPO's mission is to provide access to government information for the American public, keeping them informed about the workings of their government. The Depository Library Council (DLC): The DLC is an advisory committee composed of librarians and other information professionals. It was established to provide advice and guidance

Jen` Kirk -> All Participants: In addition to the GPO on matters related to the FDLP. The DLC's primary role is to provide recommendations to the GPO Director, who is also the Superintendent of Documents, on policy

matters, program improvements, and other issues that impact the depository library community. The Council also serves as a forum for communication and collaboration between the depository libraries and the GPO. In summary, the relationship between the DLC and the GPO is one of collaboration and partnership. The DLC serves as an advisory body to the GPO, helping to shape policy and improve the FDLP, while the GPO is responsible for the production and distribution of government information, as well as managing the FDLP. Together, they work to ensure that the American public has free and open access to government information through the network of depository libraries.

Aimee Quinn -> All Participants: Thanks Jen!

Mary A. Ries -> All Participants: In the era of webinars, etc. Making/promoting virtual offerings from other libraries to our customers to save reinventing the wheel.

Jen` Kirk -> All Participants: Credit to Charlie for sharing

Kelly Seifert -> All Participants: Order limits for FDLP promotional items are limits per order... if you run out, you can always go back and re-stock. That was something that came out during the pre-meeting that several folks didn't realize.

Gwen Sinclair -> All Participants: What's in the Stacks 1 min. videos:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-z1d8j1fAtM> & list=PLQm0q4Z\_YCHPtqH0FnWkkfxhCDnOXNeZD

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: I'm using GPT to write an open source Succession Document right now, but it wasn't ready.

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: I'll put it on GOVDOC-L

Ronnie Joiner -> All Participants: Here is a link to the Niche Academy guides I've made so far.  
<https://my.nicheacademy.com/boisepubliclibrary?category=20429>

Gwyneth Crowley -> All Participants: Lotsof great ideas! Thank you!

Sarah Dobransky -> All Participants: I'd love to have a discussion on chat GPT.

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: GPT is REALLY good at GovInfo stuff. It's upsetting.

Mark Ames -> All Participants: Thanks!

Lori Thornton -> All Participants: I love this podcast <https://guides.library.vcu.edu/discourse>

Jennifer Morgan -> All Participants: I jsut asked ChatGPT how to promote digital publications of government information to my library patrons and its giving me some ideas.

Jennifer Morgan -> All Participants: As a librarian, there are several ways to promote digital publications of government information to your library patrons: Create a dedicated section on your library's website: Your library's website can include a section dedicated to government information that provides links to digital publications. This section can be easily accessible and prominently featured on the homepage. Offer training and workshops: Provide training and workshops to library patrons on how to access and

use government digital publications. You can create instructional videos or host webinars to reach a larger audience. Host a digital publication fair: Host a digital publication fair at your library to showcase the various government digital publications available. This can be an opportunity for patrons to ask questions and learn about the benefits of digital publications. Utilize social media: Use social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook to promote government digital publicat

Brent Abercrombie -> All Participants: Thanks!

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: Jen, let's swap prompts. I got a different answer to that last week!

Andrea Stelljes -> All Participants: Thank you!

Charlie (she-her) Amiot -> All Participants: Gonna email you!

Jen` Kirk -> All Participants: Thanks for the wonderful engagement!

Andrea Morrison -> All Participants: Great ideas, thanks!

Marie Concannon -> All Participants: Thank you!

Ashley Dahlen -> All Participants: The next session is, " DLC Business / Recap & Closing" and will begin at 4:15 Eastern